

## A NEW TERMITOPHILOUS COLLEMBOLAN FROM SOUTH AUSTRALIA

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[Read 8 August 1940]

In 1934 I described a new genus and species of Collembola, *Isotobrya wheeleri* found in the nests of termites under stones at Mullewa, Western Australia. It has not since been seen, but recently my elder son has collected the following second species of the genus, again from the nests of termites, on Mount Sugarloaf at Burra, South Australia.

The genus seems, therefore, to be definitely associated with termites, but in both cases the specimens are rare. From Mullewa, although about four or five specimens were seen, only two were captured. At Burra, in spite of examining many hundreds of nests, about a dozen specimens only are available for study.

***Isotobrya burraensis* n. sp.**

*Description*—Length, to 3mm. Colour entirely deep blue-black, antennae and eye-patches black, legs blue except tibiotarsi which are white, furca blue

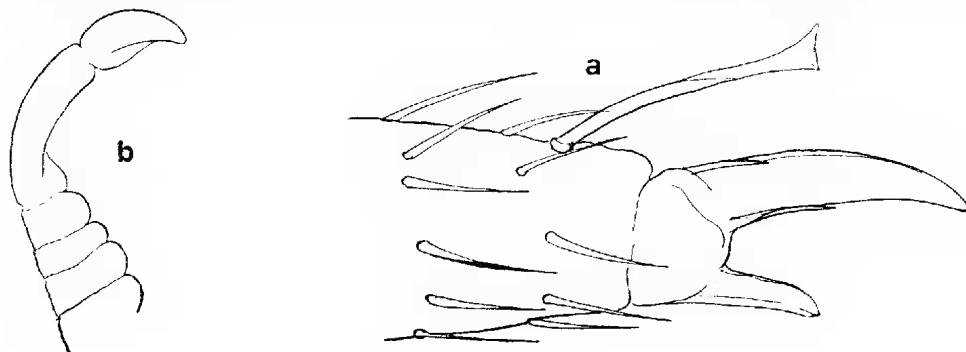


Fig. a-b

except mucrodens which are white. Ocelli, eight on each side. Antennae nearly four times as long as head diagonal; ratio of segments: 15:20:20:30, IV with apical exsertile knob. Ratio of dorsal lengths of thoracic and abdominal segments: th. II: III: abd I: II: III: IV: V: VI = 24:17:12:17:15:45:11:4. Legs normal, tibiotarsi (fig. a) with only a single very stout twisted spathulate tenent hair; claws with a pair of inner basal teeth to one-third and a pair of outer lateral basal teeth; empodium as figured, short, almost stump-like. Furca normal, reaching middle of abdomen II; mucro short (fig. b), falciform with inner basal lamella, without spine.

Clothing of short setae, with longer ciliated setae, somewhat clavate on the head and thoracic segments; these latter setae up to 300  $\mu$  long.

*Habitat*—Rare, in nests of termites, Mount Sugarloaf, Burra, South Australia, May to August 1940 (J. S. W.).

*Remarks*—This species is closely related to the genotype, *I. wheeleri*, the essential difference being in the dentition of the claws and in there being only a single thick spathulate tibiotarsal tenent hair, as compared with four slenderer ones in the genotype.